

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NO CHANGE IN CLASS. LT

11 DECLASSIFIED

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

AUTH: HR 70

DATE: 1-14-80

CURRENT DATE

IN JORDAN

30 May 1956

NSC BRIEFING

25X1

- I. During past few weeks, young ultra-nationalist Arab Legion officers have gained control of Jordan's armed forces, even dominate Government.
  - A. 20-year-old King Hussein, last week, appointed new cabinet: Premier--al-Mufti; vice-Premier & Foreign Minister--former Amb. to Egypt Fawzi al-Kulqi; Minister of Defense & Interior--Maj. Gen. Ajlani.
  - B. Gen. Ajlani's appointment reportedly approved by Jordan's new strong man--33-year-old Maj. Gen. Ali Nuwar, leader of "Free Officers' Movement" (obscure Lt. Col. three months ago and now chief of staff Arab Legion.
  - C. Nuwar wants Egyptian financial support for Arab Legion in place of present UK annual \$28 million subsidy.
  - D. He may turn out to be Jordan's equivalent of Egypt's Nasser (or possibly Jordan's Naguib) and his FOM the equivalent of Egypt's RCC.
  - E. To consolidate his position in Legion, Nuwar has already promoted 11 Legion officers to Col. or Brigadier.
- II. Position of King Hussein is shaky; depending more and more on his willingness to yield to pressures of these young militarists whom he has put in power.

25X6

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